

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An SRSV detection kit comprising polyclonal antibodies against SRSV-related ~~virus constituting peptides(a) to (k), wherein said peptides (a) to (k) are~~ viruses, wherein said polyclonal antibodies are defined in (a) to(k) as follows:

(a) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(b) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:2 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(c) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:3 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(d) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:4 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(e) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:5 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(f) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:6 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(g) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:7 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(h) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:8 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(i) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:9 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(j) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:10 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~ and

(k) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:11 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof;~~ and

wherein said polyclonal antibodies do not react with any of the peptides represented by SEQ ID NOs:1-11 or a peptide having 80% homology therewith, except as defined in (a) to (k) above.

2. (Original) An SRSV detection kit according to claim 1, wherein said antibodies have been prepared by immunizing with virus-like particles.

3. (Original) An SRSV detection kit according to claim 1, which is useful for distinguishing serotype of SRSVs.

4. (Currently Amended) An SRSV detection kit for discriminating genogroup of SRSVs, the kit comprising polyclonal antibodies against SRSV-related ~~virus-constituting peptides(a) to (k)~~, wherein said ~~peptides (a) to (d)~~ are viruses, wherein said polyclonal antibodies are defined in (a) to(d) as follows:

(a) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(b) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:2 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(c) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:3 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(d) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:4 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence, ~~and partial peptides thereof; and~~

wherein said polyclonal antibodies do not react with any of the peptides represented by SEQ ID NOs:1-4 or a peptide having 80% homology therewith, except as defined in (a) to (d) above.

5. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) An SRSV detection kit for discriminating genogroup of SRSVs, the kit comprising polyclonal antibodies against SRSV-related ~~virus~~

~~constituting peptides(a) to (k), wherein said peptides (e) to (k) are viruses, wherein said polyclonal antibodies are defined in (e) to(k) as follows:~~

(e) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:5 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence,~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(f) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:6 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence,~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(g) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:7 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence,~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(h) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:8 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence,~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(i) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:9 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence,~~and partial peptides thereof,~~

(j) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:10 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence,~~and partial peptides thereof,~~ and

(k) a polyclonal antibody directed against a peptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:11 and peptides having at least 80% homology with said amino acid sequence,~~and partial peptides thereof,~~ and

wherein said polyclonal antibodies do not react with any of the peptides represented by SEQ ID NOs:5-11 or a peptide having 80% homology therewith, except as defined in (e) to (k) above.

6. (Currently Amended) An SRSV detection kit according to ~~claims 1-5~~ claim 1, wherein SRSVs are captured with solid-phase antibody carriers having said antibodies immobilized thereon.

7. (Withdrawn) An HU/NLV/Chiba/407/1987/JP gene having a base sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 15 or a base sequence similar to the first-mentioned base sequence except for deletion, replacement or addition of one to several bases of said first-mentioned base sequence.

8. (Withdrawn) An HU/NLV/Kashiwa 47/1997/JP gene having a base sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 20 or a base sequence similar to the first-mentioned base sequence except for deletion, replacement or addition of one to several bases of said first-mentioned base sequence.

9. (Withdrawn) An HU/NLV/Mie 7k/1994/JP gene having a base sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 21 or a base sequence similar to the first-mentioned base sequence except for deletion, replacement or addition of one to several bases of said first-mentioned base sequence.

10. (Withdrawn) An HU/NLV/Osaka 10-25/1999/JP gene having a base sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 15 or a base sequence similar to the first-mentioned base sequence except for deletion, replacement or addition of one to several bases of said first-mentioned base sequence.

11. (New) An SRSV detection kit according to claim 4, wherein SRSVs are captured with solid-phase antibody carriers having said antibodies immobilized thereon.

12. (New) An SRSV detection kit according to claim 5, wherein SRSVs are captured with solid-phase antibody carriers having said antibodies immobilized thereon.

13. (New) A method of detecting the presence of an SRSV-related virus, comprising obtaining a sample comprising a candidate SRSV-related virus; contacting said sample with the SRSV detection kit according to Claim 1; and measuring the absence or presence of an interaction with one or more polyclonal antibodies in said SRSV detection kit.

14. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein said measuring is by an immunoassay.

15. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said immunoassay comprises individually immobilizing polyclonal antibodies (a) through (k).

16. (New) A method of genogrouping SRSV-related viruses, comprising obtaining a sample comprising a candidate SRSV-related virus;

contacting said sample with the SRSV detection kit according to Claim 4; and  
measuring the absence or presence of an interaction with one or more polyclonal  
antibodies in said SRSV detection kit.

17. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said measuring is by an immunoassay.

18. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein said immunoassay comprises individually  
immobilizing polyclonal antibodies (a) through (d).

19. (New) A method of genogrouping SRSV-related viruses, comprising  
obtaining a sample comprising a candidate SRSV-related virus;  
contacting said sample with the SRSV detection kit according to Claim 5; and  
measuring the absence or presence of an interaction with one or more polyclonal  
antibodies in said SRSV detection kit.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein said measuring is by an immunoassay.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said immunoassay comprises individually  
immobilizing polyclonal antibodies (e) through (k).

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 and 4-6 have been amended.

Claims 11-21 have been added.

The amendment of Claims 1, 4, and 5 is supported by the corresponding claims as originally filed and the original specification, for example at page 17, lines 24-25 and page 18, lines 9-18. The amendment of Claim 6 serves to remove multiple dependencies. New Claims 11 and 12 are supported by original Claim 6. New Claims 13-21 are supported by the specification as originally filed, for example at page 18, line 19 to page 20, line 7 and the Examples.

No new matter has been added by the present amendment.